

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
<div>Our personal consumer choices have ecological, social, and spiritual consequences. It is time to re-examine some of our deeply held notions that underlie our lifestyles.</div> <div>— David Suzuki</div>												<div>BUY ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCES</div>	
		<div>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER CERTIFICATION TRAINING 0800-1600</div> <div>BLDG # 2410 (Green Bldg)</div> <div>ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED</div>				<div>ECO / BEM 1300 -1330 Bldg. 218</div> <div>Gen. Environmental Awareness 1330-1400 Bldg 218</div>		1		2			
<div>AVOID DISPOSABLE ITEMS</div>										<div></div>			
3		4		5		6		7		8		9	
<div></div>				<div>BUY CLEANERS IN CONCENTRATED FORM TO REDUCE PACKAGING</div>		<div>Garrison Commander's Monthly Sustainability Breakfast 0800 - 0920 Wolf Dining Facility Topic: Procurement</div>				<div>CONSIDER ORGANIC FOODS</div>			
10		11		12		13		14		15		16	
		<div>CONSIDER THE WASTE GENERATED WHEN MAKING PURCHASES</div>		<div>EQWG 1000-1130 EPO Meeting 1300 -1400 Green Bldg</div>		<div>BUY ONLY WHAT YOU WILL USE</div>		<div></div>		<div></div>			
17		18		19		20		21		22		23	
<div>CHOOSE THE LEAST TOXIC CLEANER TO DO THE JOB</div>				<div>AVOID EXCESSIVE PACKAGING</div>		<div>BUY PRODUCTS MADE WITH RECYCLED MATERIALS</div>		<div></div>		<div></div>		<div></div>	
24		25		26		27		28		29		30	

GO ‘GREEN’ FOR CLEANER ENVIRONMENT

As the country’s demand for more environmentally-preferable products ratchets up and Department of Defense green procurement policies increase, the stage is set for Fort Carson to seek greener procurement alternatives to “business as usual” purchasing.

The Mountain Post is increasingly putting its considerable purchasing power where it can best promote its sustainability progress. One unit on Fort Carson, the Medical Department Activity, is setting the bar high for others to follow in terms of implementing cleaning products that are more human- and eco-friendly.

To arrive at a sustainable cleaning program, the MEDDAC worked with the Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management to prepare a plan that would ensure Soldiers using the products stay in compliance with the Silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating standards for their new MEDDAC barracks.

An approved list of environmentally-preferable cleaning products was provided to the Soldiers in the MEDDAC barracks. Additionally, a standard operating procedure was developed setting a time period for Soldiers to finish up using whatever “non-green” products were left from when they moved from their old barracks.

Evans Army Community Hospital has also implemented a green cleaning program for the entire hospital. Currently, 95 percent of the products the housekeepers use at the hospital are already environmentally-friendly products. Since

the housekeeping staff is already trained on how to mix and dilute these cleaning products, they will teach Soldiers living in the barracks how to do this so the products are used most efficiently.

There are numerous ways for organizations, units and homeowners to improve their “green” status, from how they purchase, use and ultimately dispose of products. The following are 10 ideas on how to be and buy more “green”:

1. Research products to find less toxic alternatives to paints, carpeting and cleaning supplies for homes and offices. For more information about green purchasing, log on to the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive website at <http://www.ofee.gov/gp/gp.htm> or the Green Seal Product Recommendations website at <http://www.greenseal.org/findaproduct/index.cfm>.
2. Buy Energy Star rated appliances reduce energy consumption and the resources used to produce electricity. To find out more, visit <http://www.energystar.gov>.
3. By compact fluorescent light bulbs – they last longer and reduce energy consumption. According to the Department of Energy’s Energy Star website, Energy Star qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs use at least two-thirds less energy than standard incandescent bulbs to provide the same amount of light and last up to 10 times longer. They can save \$30 or more in energy costs over each bulb’s lifetime. They generate 70 percent less heat, so they’re safer to operate and can cut energy costs as-

- sociated with home cooling.
4. Request vendors, such as Fort Carson’s Envision Express, to research and purchase green office products.
  5. Consider buying products from businesses that support and improve the quality of life for the local community.
  6. Buy products with less packaging or come in recycled packaging – packaging requires resources and generates waste.
  7. Invest in local goods and services, which reduce transportation requirements, fossil fuel consumption and has the added benefit of supporting the local economy.
  8. Purchasing recycled-content products is the first step, once an item is used; recycle what can be (e.g. re-recycle paper and any plastic containers). This is called “closing the loop” in recycling and reduces the solid waste generated.
  9. Properly dispose of left over household products and old electronics at the El Paso County Solid Waste Management Division Household Chemical Waste Collection Facility. Find out how, by logging on to <http://adm.elpasoco.com/NR/exeres/B8EB29B1-6FB5-4ECB-B492-F0ED28F55235.frameless.htm>.
  10. Use less or non- toxic pesticides and fertilizers when taking care of lawns and outdoor plants. Certain amounts of products such as these end up draining in to the storm water system and become part of someone else’s water supply downstream.